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District: 02

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Caltrans Awards \$48.5 Million for Safe Routes to School to Increase Safety and Health

REDDING – Caltrans today awarded \$48.5 million of state Safe Routes to School Program funds for 139 projects to increase safety and help reduce injuries and fatalities among children in grades K-12 who walk and bicycle to school.

"Safety is Caltrans' number one priority," said Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty.

"We are committed to providing the highest safety possible for our children as they travel to and from school in California."

Among the state-funded projects are new sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and other safety improvements. Caltrans chose each project based upon need, effectiveness, and how quickly it could be delivered. By improving safety, more kids are encouraged to walk and bicycle to school, resulting in healthier children while reducing greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle congestion.

More than \$7 million of the funds were awarded to critical safety projects in rural counties. In addition, 82 projects totaling \$28 million will create jobs and benefit at least one low-income school within each project.

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Some of the notable local projects that received funding include:

PLUMAS COUNTY:

Pioneer-Quincy Elementary School received \$512,000 toward constructing a pedestrian path and bridge, sidewalks, and curb ramps.

SHASTA COUNTY:

Sequoia Middle School and Cypress Elementary School received \$292,400 to construct raised medians and pedestrian refuge islands, sidewalks, and curb and gutter improvements.

Shasta Meadows Elementary School received \$122,900 to construct sidewalk and curb ramps.

Happy Valley Primary received \$480,000 to construct multi-use path, sidewalks, and curb ramps.

To date, the state and federal Safe Routes to School programs have awarded \$472 million for safety projects around California's schools.

To view the entire list of SRTS projects that received funding:

www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/saferoutes/documents/FINALApproved%20SR2S%

20Cycle%2010%20SProjects%20List.pdf